

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Kirsten Boyd Date: October 8, 2003 Phone: (415) 288-8865

MIGDEN PREDICTS GAY-FRIENDLY SCHWARZENEGGER ADMINISTRATION

San Francisco - California Board of Equalization Chairwoman Carole Migden, California's highest ranking LGBT official, made a statement today about the effect of the new gubernatorial administration on the LGBT community.

Migden: This election will not halt our progress in the LGBT community. Under a new governor, we will continue to make steady gains to protect ourselves and our families. Rest assured, we will extend an open hand to work with the governor-elect and his new administration.

Migden: We see the Governor-elect as an ally and will take him at his word when he said he supported domestic partners. Although Arnold Schwartzenegger had commented about unwillingness to sign AB 205, this can be seen as campaign rhetoric to differentiate candidates. Based upon the incremental nature of the gains made in the domestic partners program under Governor Davis' administration, AB 205 might have undergone considerable amendment in a normal political environment.

Migden: We thank Governor Davis for signing multiple protections for the LGBT community in a frequently difficult legislative environment. Despite a clear majority, it was still a brick by brick process, and Governor Davis was steady at the helm.

Chairwoman Migden will be available today for comment. Please contact Kirsten Boyd in her office at (415) 288-8865 to arrange for an interview.

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